IN THE CLAIMS

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A method for operating a drafting arrangement for drafting a fiber composite where mass fluctuations are avoided or minimized, the method comprising the steps of:

feeding a fiber composite through a front pair of rollers;

bringing a fiber composite end to a predetermined distance from a nip line created by a rear pair of rollers; and

the fiber composite end entering the nip line of the rear pair of rollers when the rear and front pairs of rollers attain a constant rotational speed.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein the predetermined distance between the fiber composite end and nip line is preferably up to 6 millimeters.

16. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein the predetermined distance between the fiber composite end and nip line is more preferably between 0.1 and 5 millimeters.

17. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein the predetermined distance between the fiber composite end and nip line is most preferably between 3 and 4 millimeters.

18. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein when the fiber composite end enters the nip line of the rear pair of rollers, the rear pair of rollers have a circumferential speed of at least 300 meters per minute.

19. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein immediately after exiting the nip line of the rear pair of rollers, the fiber composite end has a speed of at least 300 meters per minute.

20. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein:

the front and rear rollers each have a operating rotational speed; and

the fiber composite end enters the nip line when the front and rear rollers are operating at the operating rotational speed.

21. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein:

the front and rear rollers each have a operating rotational speed;

before the fiber composite end enters the nip line, the front and rear rollers are operating slower than operating rotational speed; and

after the fiber composite end enters the nip line, the front and rear rollers accelerate to operating rotational speed.

22. (New) The method according to claim 14 comprising the step of:

cutting the fiber composite end to achieve the predetermined distance between the fiber composite end and the nip line.

23. (New) The method according to claim 14 comprising the steps of:

feeding the fiber composite through at least one further pair of rollers prior to feeding the fiber composite to the front pair of rollers; and

the front and rear pair of rollers forming a main drafting zone of the drafting arrangement.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23 comprising the step of:

drafting occurring between the at least one further pair of rollers and the front pair of rollers.

25. (New) The method according to claim 14 wherein the rear pair of rollers constitutes a pair of delivery rollers for the drafting arrangement.

26. (New) The method of claim 14 comprising the steps of:

transferring a drafted fiber composite from the drafting arrangement to a spinning unit; and

the spinning unit spinning the fiber composite into yarn.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the drafting arrangement and the spinning unit are elements of a spinning station of a textile machine.

28. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the spinning unit spins the fiber composite into a yarn by means of an air spinning method.

29. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the spinning unit has a vortex chamber and a spindle.

30. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the spindle is a non-rotating spinneret.

31. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein one or more controls direct the drafting arrangement.

32. (New) The method of claim 14 where one or more controls direct the front rollers to move the fiber composite end back from the nip line.

33. (New) A method for operating a drafting arrangement for drafting a fiber composite where mass fluctuations are avoided or minimized, the method comprising the steps of:

feeding a fiber composite through a front pair of rollers;

bringing a fiber composite end to a predetermined distance from a nip line created by a rear pair of rollers;

drawing an existing yarn end through the nip line of the rear pair of rollers;

cutting the yarn end to a specific length;

piecing the fiber composite end and the yarn end together by overlapping them at the nip line to form an overlap region; and

piecing occurs when the rear and front pairs of rollers attain a constant rotational speed.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33 wherein:

the front and rear rollers each have an operating rotational speed;

before piecing occurs, the front and rear rollers are operating slower than the operating rotational speed; and

after piecing occurs, the front and rear rollers accelerate to the operating rotational speed.

35. (New) The method according to claim 33 wherein:

the front and rear rollers each have a operating rotational speed; and

piecing occurs when the front and rear rollers are operating at the operating rotational speed.

36. (New) The method of claim 29 comprising the step of spinning the overlap region in a spinning unit.